

COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC

Volkspolizei School in Erfurt-Petersberg

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PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to 27 March 1951, the Volkspolizei school in Erfurt-Petersberg had the designation VPD II, Erfurt. It numbered about 1,200 police from the entire Soviet Zone of Germany, with 800 of them belonging to the school cadre. The trainees were police who had been selected to be officers.
2. The school was organized into 8 companies of 100 police each, with 4 Zugue to a company. The 8th Company consisted of newly recruited FDJ functionaries who, although they were officer candidates, were scheduled to go through a longer instruction course than the others.
3. The officers of the unit included:
 

VP Kommandeur Gotthilf, (fnu)	school commandant, an ex-officer who went over to the Soviets during the war
VP Kommandeur Kalisch, (fnu)	PK officer
VP Oberrat von Kopenhagen, (fnu)	director of training, an ex-officer and wearer of the Knight's Cross
VP Oberrat Fiedler, (fnu)	operations officer
VP Oberkommissar Wurm, (fnu)	liaison officer
VP Rat Schliding, (fnu)	administrative officer
VP Oberrat Heubert, (fnu)	personnel officer
VP Oberrat Blockschmidt, (fnu)	SED secretary
VP Oberkommissar Abel, (fnu)	FDJ secretary
VP Rat Hoenig, (fnu)	tactical instructor
VP Rat Darsch, (fnu)	tactical instructor
VP Oberrat Forster, (fnu)	tactical instructor

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VP Oberkommissar Schulze, (fnu)	tactical instructor
VP Oberkommissar Wolf, (fnu)	instructor of training in firing
VP Rat Hasenbein, (fnu)	instructor of training in firing, an ex-officer and a graduate of the central school in Moscow
VP Kommissar Langhammer, (fnu)	instructor of artillery training
VP Kommissar Schneider, (fnu)	instructor of armored training
VP Oberkommissar Moehrig, (fnu)	instructor of engineer training
VP Kommissar Leuthauser, (fnu)	athletic instructor
VP Rat Kurt Mirtsching	instructor of basic training and ex-officer and a graduate of the central school in Moscow
VP Kommissar Berger, (fnu)	instructor of basic training
VP Oberrat Schuerer, (fnu)	formerly commanding officer of the 8th VP Bereitschaft, an ex-officer, transferred to the HVA
VP Kommandeur Ernst, (fnu)	formerly commanding officer of the 7th VP Bereitschaft, transferred to Halle
VP Oberkommissar Weinhold, (fnu)	commanding officer of 1st Co
VP Kommissar Spranger, (fnu)	PK officer of 1st Co
VK Kommissar Kramer, (fnu)	commanding officer of 2d Co
VP Oberkommissar Bulow, (fnu)	commanding officer of 7th Co

4. The school trained prospective VP officers to fill positions up to company commanders (Kommissar) in nine-month courses. These courses consisted of 3 months of individual training, 3 months of group training and 3 months of platoon training. The training included two hours a week of political indoctrination and three hours a week of political information; 20 hours a month of tactical indoctrination; training with Zekolov heavy machine guns and Degtyarev light machine guns, theoretical training with T-34 and JS tanks, and training with field guns, mortars, parachute guns and mountain guns; theoretical and practical engineer training, including the construction and removal of obstacles, bridge construction, river crossing by boats, demolition of bunkers, laying and clearing of mines, demolition work and voluntary group instruction on aircraft.
5. Off-duty hours during which the police were granted town leave were from 5 to 12 p.m. on Wednesdays, from 4 p.m. on Saturdays to 2 a.m. on Sundays and from 2 to 12 p.m. on Sundays. \*

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